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**FIAE Chapter 1**

It is important to know what it means to be a differentiated teacher. As a differentiated teacher we have to decide what will work the best for each student and not assume that every child can do the same work in the same way. The example that was given in the book about taking glasses away from one student may seem fair to the other student to complete the same work, however the child with glasses needs those glasses to perform properly in a classroom setting. Being a differentiated teacher means determining when those students need a tool to help them and knowing whether others are ready to move on because they no longer need these tools.

Being a differentiated teacher will affect the way I teach because I will be aware of resources that I must use in order to assist students in their learning experience. Though it may not seem equal to others that some students may need extra tools I must offer the help to every one so none of the students are left out. I must also find a balance between doing the work for the students and not helping them at all. Once I can determine a way that puts responsibility on both my students and myself then the students will feel proud and accomplished with their work and I will feel that I have accomplished something by giving them the proper support they need. As a teacher I need to be a helpful tool to the students but not one that they must rely on all of the time.

**FIAE Chapter 2**

This chapter is about determining the usefulness of certain assessments and tells you that you should only use assessments that effectively show the student has mastered the content you are teaching. It also describes tools you should use to determine what students should master. The books suggests talking to other teachers or looking at benchmarks as a few of the resources to use while determining what should be important to asses. It also explains that if you just use tests you may not have a great idea if the student has just memorized the material for the test or is actually learning and absorbing the material.

All of this will affect my class because if they are just memorizing facts then they will not be able to bring knowledge to a new classroom after me. If this happens they will have nothing to build off of and will become lost in their grades ahead of them. As a teacher this will affect me because I need to effectively gauge their mastery of Social Studies and determine if they are ready for the next level. If I give out tests it should be written with thought engaging questions. This means that multiple choice quizzes and tests are not always the way to go. I must also learn from my students how to assess them properly. If I get feedback from the students I will be able to learn how to properly gauge how much they have mastered in each unit I teach. However my first year of teaching I can also ask other teachers for help and discover ideas that will work for assessing my own class.

**FIAE Chapter 3**

The main point in this chapter is that you have to combine your differentiated teaching approach with assessments. One important thing about this is that you have to determine if a student was having an off day when he or she was taking a test or was not ready for the presentation that was due that day. Something that will help me determine if a student is not ready for that assessment will be observing their actions. It is also important that I tell other teachers that this particular student may be having problems so they will be ready for the same thing in their classrooms. As a teacher I must also have the assessments already clearly planned out and have enough detail in the rubric that the student can understand or make the test suitable for everyone to engage their brains.

One strategy that was mentioned that I thought was interesting was to give the students the test on the first day of the unit and use it as a study guide. This would affect my class in a positive way because they would know the types of questions that would be on a test. This would also keep students engaged during the lesson because they would want to find out the next answer on the test. I think this could be a really cool tool to use while teaching because it would give students examples of answers to look for while also learning. The only thing that I would have to do is change wording of questions or write similar questions on the test that they are going to be graded on.

**FIAE Chapter 4**

There are three types of assessment that should always be used in a classroom. Those three things include portfolios, rubrics, and self-assessment. These three things are important because a student can reflect back on what they learned with a portfolio, get feedback from a teacher with a rubric and give themselves feedback on what they think they can do better on the next assessment. These are all assessments that go out of the box compared to standardized testing yet they all show student, parents, and fellow teachers what a certain student has learned and shows how they can apply the knowledge to what they enjoy. I think this will affect my classroom because students get a learning experience that they can get multiple ways of feedback and will want to look back over the year of what they have accomplished and what they can do better for next time.

Out of the three assessment strategies I thought it was interesting how they laid out the rubric process for differentiated instruction. If I am a teacher that only gives standards for the highest grade possible and nothing else students will want to meet that mark because there are no other exceptions or expectations. This will affect the class because students will try to get the most out of the learning experience instead of trying to figure out what the minimal amount they have to do to pass the project. As a teacher this will affect me because I will see students wanting to learn more and I will know that I should not give students the idea that they can only do minimal work to pass. This will show the students that I am here for them and that I want them to succeed on their assessments.

**FIAE Chapter 5**

This chapter shows the importance of finding a level of work that will challenge your students while also meeting their learning needs. As a teacher I would use tiering if I had many different readiness levels in my class yet I would want to push each readiness level higher. This would affect my class because they would still be learning at a pace that is comfortable enough for them. If I add in small challenges along the way students would not see that in the long run they have achieved more than what they thought they would. As a teacher I would have to find a way to make each day a little more challenging for each learning readiness group.

Some ideas that I thought were interesting and I could use in my own classroom were the tic-tac-toe boards. I thought these could be helpful for tiering in my classroom because they give students the ability to choose what they want to do while still being at their level of understanding. If students are able to have a choice they will be more interested in what they have to learn and push themselves to do the work as well. Another idea was the summarization pyramid, this could help with tiering because I could give more complex questions that students should look for in their social studies readings and work up to them analyzing how different events in history happened. Also using the pyramid would work as a good note taking strategy and would allow for students to have access to study topics. Tiering is something that will encourage students to go beyond the minimal amount of effort and would possibly help motivate the students in my class.

**FIAE Chapter 6**

While the majority of you class should not be based on tests they are still a way to assess a student in you class. This chapter gives helpful hints on how you should set up tests for students in a differentiated classroom. The first thing that is important is to have a variety of questions for example have a few multiple choice, matching and fill in the blanks as well as have a few that engage the students’ thinking. Writing prompts are a good idea to have because they let the student explain why their answer is the way it is. It is also important to include tiering in the tests that you give. It is also important to give feedback on a test as soon as possible, a way to do this would be to have students write two copies of their answers and have them keep one and go over the test right away.

This will all affect my class because they will have feedback from me in a timely manner and will give them more motivation to want to learn more. Also if I give a variety of questions some students’ may be able to answer certain types of questions while struggling with other types. By having a variety of questions I can determine what a student’s strengths and weaknesses are and make sure that they are just memorizing the information. Another thing that I could do is ask students why they chose a certain answer on multiple choice. This will help me determine if their logic is correct or if they have any misunderstandings about the information.